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SIPDIS - USUN FOR GERMAIN AND KUJAWINSKI

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TAGS: [PREL](#) [UNSC](#) [IZ](#)
SUBJECT: POINTS FOR JUNE 18 UNSC DEBATE ON UNAMI

1.(U) This is an action request. USUN should draw from the points in para 2 during the open debate on UNAMI in the Security Council on June 18.

[1](#)2. (SBU) Begin Points:

GENERAL

--Mr. President, I would like to thank the Secretary-General for his report and the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI) for its tireless work and commitment to support a more peaceful and prosperous Iraq.

--Emboldened by our shared strategic interests - heartened by the service of thousands of brave Americans - and mindful of the future of millions of Iraqis - the United States remains committed and engaged in Iraq.

--In accordance with the U.S-Iraq Security Agreement - U.S. combat troops are planning to withdraw from Iraqi cities, villages, and localities no later than June 30, 2009, leading to the eventual withdrawal of all U.S. forces by the end of 2011.

--Our drawdown and withdrawal in no way diminishes our long-term partnership with Iraq. During this transition period, the United States is ardent in its support to the Iraqi people as they assume full responsibility for their sovereign nation. We are earnest in our efforts to build a strong and lasting strategic relationship with Iraq; one which respects the sovereignty and serves the interests of both countries.

--As a friend and long-term partner, we will stand with Iraq. We will work with the Government of Iraq to strengthen democratic institutions, uphold the rule of law, and develop peaceful and cooperative relations with its neighbors. We will also encourage the international community to intensify its engagement with the Government of Iraq in order to secure and build upon Iraq's political, economic, and security gains.

--Mr. President, the United States would like to acknowledge the critical role that the United Nations continues to play in Iraq. Under the leadership of Special Representative of the Secretary General Staffan de Mistura and at the invitation of the Government of Iraq, UNAMI continues to expand the presence and capacity of the UN throughout Iraq. From disputed internal boundaries to free and fair elections - from national reconciliation to refugees and internally displaced persons - UNAMI continues to play a critical supporting role in promoting issues decisive to the long-term peace, security, and prosperity of Iraq.

--On behalf of the United States, I am proud to offer our full support for UNAMI's mandate. We particularly would like to recognize the accomplished and steadfast work of Special Representative Staffan de Mistura and his staff. The United States is greatly appreciative of your service.

--In the days and months ahead, UNAMI's work will be especially significant. Let me take a moment to highlight areas where UNAMI's efforts will be most critical.

--Building upon the success of January's provincial elections, in which a significant, inclusive, voter turnout and a vastly improved security climate led to the election of new provincial councils in 14 out of 18 provinces, UNAMI will once again provide technical assistance and advice to Iraq's Independent High Electoral Commission in preparation for Kurdistan Regional Government elections in July 2009 and Iraqi parliamentary elections in January 2010.

--UNAMI will also continue to play a crucial supporting role in efforts to address Iraq's disputed internal boundaries, particularly in promoting constructive dialogue regarding a mutually acceptable solution - a key requirement for lasting stability in Iraq. The U.S. calls on all relevant parties to advance this process in earnest.

--UNAMI will also provide valuable support to the Iraqi Government as it facilitates the safe, voluntary, and orderly return of displaced Iraqis. Supporting sustainable and voluntary reintegration of Iraqi refugees and internally displaced persons is essential for the long-term stability of Iraq. In order to support and sustain returns, UNAMI is engaging with the Iraqi Government in an effort to provide security and access to housing, jobs, and basic services. We welcome additional efforts on this issue by the Government of Iraq.

--All of us here can be proud of UNAMI's effort and outstanding record of accomplishments to date. The United States deeply appreciates your work and looks forward to your continued success.

--Mr. President, the United States firmly supports Iraq's continuing development as a sovereign, and democratic nation in which all communities can freely participate in political, social and economic life, and whose human and civil rights are protected - a nation at peace with itself, its neighbors and the wider international community.

--The United States recognizes that regional and international support for Iraq is essential for continued progress. We encourage all countries to assist Iraq in meeting its goals, and to support the Iraqi people as they thrive and prosper in peace.

--The United States unequivocally welcomes and encourages UNAMI's work and expanded footprint in Iraq - and stands ready to assist as necessary in accordance with the U.S.-UN Security Agreement. We encourage all countries to do the same.

--Thank you, Mr. President.

END POINTS
CLINTON